REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the contents on the Office Action dated March 3, 2004 in which claims 1-15 were allowed. Reconsideration of the objection to the claim 1 is requested in view of the foregoing amendment to claim 1.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, allowed claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues remain and that an interview with Applicants' representative would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 3, 2004

Catherine M. Voorhees (Registration No. 33,074)

VENABLE

Post Office Box 34385

Washington, DC 20043-9998 Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Direct Dial: (202) 344-4043 Telefax: (202) 344-8300

CMV/elw DC2/544591